

Information About How Informix online.log file is Rotated Using Linux Utility logrotate October 8, 2004

1.0 General Information

Starting with Build OB5, the RFC Archive System (AX) takes advantage of a Linux command, logrotate. Prior to Build OB5, there was no standard method of housecleaning the Informix online.log file..

Problem Description:

The /opt/informix/online.log file grows indefinitely on AX AWIPS systems. If some mitigating process is not introduced, the log file will eventually consume the entire partition and hang the Informix engine.

Solution:

Use the Linux utility logrotate to rotate the Informix online.log file.

Motivation for the Specified Solution:

Redhat Linux systems, through Redhat Enterprise Workstation 3 and beyond, use the 'logrotate' package as their standard tool for rotating, compressing, and otherwise managing log files. 'logrotate' is included in Redhat's System Environment/Base application set. The logrotate utility is designed to simplify the administration of log files.

Logrotate implements log rotation better than we can do without significant duplicated effort. It manages compression of log files, easy specification of time or size between log rotations, and many other helpful features, such as postrotate scripts, which might be useful for other tasks.

For this task, the fact that no code needed to be written, and that no crontabs needed to be modified, made a simple logrotate configuration file an attractive option. Additionally, logrotate supports 'copytruncate' functionality which breaks off logs without the need to restart the database daemons.

2.0 Example Config File

Listed on the following page is the config file used to rotate the Informix online.log file on the AX system. The name of this file is Informix.

```
# Created: 8/24/04
# Modified: 8/26/04
#
# File: /etc/logrotate.d/informix
#
# Detail: Logrotate config for Informix online.log

/opt/informix/online.log {

# If file grows over 10M, rotate it
size 10M

# keep 2 months worth of backlogs
rotate 2

# Truncate the original log file in place after creating a copy
copytruncate

# log files compressed
compress
}
}
```

3.0 How To

Place the config file, in this case Informix, in the directory /etc/logrotate.d; Linux does the rest.

3.0 Troubleshooting Information

Contact the RFC Support Group.

4.0 Maintenance Information

Originating Programmer/Office: OHD/HL
Silver Spring, MD

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